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CROYDON PLAYED 'BANNED' STRIKER

By LES SHORROCK

CROYDON City is seeking to get its State League match with Maribyrnong Polonia replayed, on the grounds that it was improperly deprived of a player for the whole of the second half.

At half-time during the Maribyrnong v Croydon game on April 17, referee Sam Zoumas took exception to a remark made by Croydon's Graham French as the players walked down the race.

The referee followed the Croydon players into their dressing room and warned him in front of the rest of the team to watch his language.

French didn't respond then, but as Zoumas left the room he heard French make another remark and he returned and told him, in effect, "you're off".

Croydon coach Miron Bleiberg said that he decided then to substitute French and told 16 year old Spencer Field to get ready to take his place.

But when he went to the referee's dressing room to clarify the position referee Zoumas said he wouldn't permit a substitution.

Bleiberg says, "He said to me, 'I want you to play with ten men for the second half' and that was in front of the two linesmen, Messrs Barnett and Brazzal.

"I pleaded with him, saying Frenchie has been naughty and I'll co-operate with you by taking him off

and playing the boy instead, even though you didn't show him a red card.

"But he wouldn't budge and just repeated 'I want you to play with ten men'."

On Monday after the game, Croydon wrote to the VSF asking for French's passport back and got it.

This was after club had been informed that a 'sending-off', before a game, during the interval or after the game had to be the subject of a special report which would be heard by the Tribunal.

The VSF acceded to Croydon's request that French be allowed to play in the next match, against Box Hill, pending the Tribunal hearing, which took place last night (Wednesday).

Now the nub of the matter is this.

If Zoumas' action in sending off French was correct, he should have served a week's suspension the following week, in which case he had no right to play against Box Hill.

But if Zoumas was wrong, then Croydon is entitled to a replay, because it was wrongfully deprived of a player, costing it the game.

It doesn't end there, though.

If the Tribunal finds that Zoumas' action was right, where does Box Hill stand?

Shouldn't it be entitled to protest that Croydon forfeit the two points it obtained from their game because French was ineligible?



● Graham French

JUVE CRISIS-McKENDRY QUILTS



● Len McKendry

Len McKendry's two and a half year association with Brunswick Juventus ended when he resigned his coaching position on Saturday after discussing his situation with club president Dominic Tenuta.

The players had stayed behind after training the night before for a frank discussion on the

club's position and how to improve it.

But when the players were asked about McKendry's coaching they stayed loyal to a man and declined to pass judgement, saying that decisions in that area were the prerogative of the committee.

So Tenuta grasped the nettle and asked McKendry to go for

the good of the club, and he resigned.

Juventus followed Preston's lead and asked captain and senior player Brian Brown to take over as caretaker-coach.

Brown reshuffled the pack somewhat for Sunday's game, with Peter Lewis coming back from suspension, but to no avail, as the black and Whites went down again.

Juventus plainly has a defensive problem, having conceded 21 goals, the second highest number in the League, and it is taking steps to rectify that by hiring Peter Laumets as a goalkeeper coach.

It will be strengthened also by the return of Mike Petersen to the midfield, but Andrew Zinni, despite having

the pin removed from his injured thumb, is still not ready to resume.

If appointing Brian Brown doesn't bring about the required improvement, Juve could look around for another coach.

One who comes readily to mind is John Margaritis, presently holidaying in Greece, who is no stranger to Juventus.



● Brian Brown

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS LIFT OUT PAGES 8-9

DEDICATION THE KEY TO SUCCESS

— Says Youth Coach

AT the start of this year, the South Melbourne committee set the local scene agog with its decision to dispose of seven senior players and rebuild for the 1988 season with the accent on youth.

The critics scoffed at the thought that any club



● Con Giatas.

could dispense with players of the calibre of Peter Laumets, Charlie Egan, Garry McDowall, Stuart Stevenson, Danny Crainie, Carl Halford and Richard Miranda and replace them with untried youngsters.

But today those critics are having to eat their words because as we write, South Melbourne is making a bold bid for this year's championship and already has one trophy on the sideboard, the Buffalo Cup.

One factor that caused the South Melbourne committee to take such a drastic course was its confidence in senior coach Brian Garvey's ability to bring out the best in his younger players reinforced by its belief in its youth team.

The youth team is coached by one of South's 'back-room boys', Steve Short, who is just about bursting with pride over his as yet unbeaten boys.

Three of youth team of last year, goalkeeper Con Giatas, defender Paul Fernandes and striker Kim Taliodoros have graduated to the senior squad and others are sure to follow.

Just what is the secret of South's youth success? If you ask Steve Short, he modestly turns aside his own contribution, and

answers quite simply, "hard work".

"All the players in the youth squad here," he says, "are made well aware that there is a lot of hard work to be got through and a lot of learning to be done before they become top-class players."

"They work hard through the week, but when they go out to play a game on a Sunday I simply want them to enjoy themselves."

"They don't just go out there to play a game, they go out to win, because winning becomes a habit and the love of winning and being part of the team spirit is very important at this stage of a player's career."

"Even a small taste of success can fire a boy and set him on the road to becoming an international representative."

Steve Short knows that good players aren't made overnight, some bloom early and then lose the urge, others reach their peak later.

Many players may leave his youth set-up at the end of the season, but Steve is satisfied that he has sent them out prepared to become better players and if they make the grade at another club, he's only too happy for them, because their success is all for the good

of the game.

"The development of our home-grown young players is very important if we are ever to become a force at international level and if we want the game to gain the public recognition it deserves."

"There are many, many good young players spread throughout the Melbourne clubs, but only too often they become lost to the game after becoming embroiled in selfish club politics or being subjected to parental interference."

"And very often top players fall by the wayside after being disappointed by coaches who have built them by overpraising them and then overlooking them."

Steve places a very high premium on attitude too.

"Quite apart from constantly honing their skills and gaining a great understanding of the game, it is so important that players appreciate that only with the correct attitude, dedication and a sense of responsibility will they reach the highest level."

"Unfortunately, love of the game and the hunger that goes with the desire to work hard and compete is sadly, often lacking in today's youngsters."

"But it's great to work with those who have the dedication, and my only



● South's Youth coach in his playing days. Short, who represented Victoria was a stalwart and rugged defender whose career was cut short by a knee injury.

unpleasant task in dealing with such a great bunch of boys is having to tell one he hasn't been selected.

"But that is part and parcel of a coach's lot and you have to take it in your stride."

Five of Steve Short's present youth squad are under fifteen years old, and most will still be under age next season.

And he is always on the

lookout for more talent, so any boy who is interested in playing for the South Melbourne U/18 team and wishes to have a trial for the Youth squad is welcome to contact club secretary Jim Armstrong, telephone no. 370 8197.

The present youth squad is Angie Karageorgiou (15), Sonny Sevin (15), Kieron Lennon (15),

Paul Donnelly (18), Dennis Mihos (16), Jason Koliba (15), Tony Markoski (15), Chris Evangelias (17), Kris Traganouski (15), Billy Tsakos (17), Arthur Robotis (17), Nick Andreass (17), Tony Hitos (17), Steve Karakitos (17), Costa Perharis (16), and Con Argyrion (17).

CLASH OF THE YEAR

ONE of the biggest matches of the weekend will take place not in the National League, not in the State League, but in the First Division, where top team Altona Gate Vardar tackles second placed Albion Turku Gucu.

In what promises to be a memorable spectacle for Macedonian and Turkish soccer fans, the Altona Gate defence, which has yet to concede a goal, will be fully tested by Turku Gucu's dynamic striker Ossie Latif.

Latif, like Altona Gate Vardar's Mendo Ristovski, has been scoring every week. Both players started in the NSL with Footscray JUST, while Turku Gucu has other former JUST players in Marino Oblak and Goece Nedelkovski.

Last weekend, Altona Gate Vardar thrashed

Knox City 4-0 with two goals by Kebakoski, and one each by Tasevski and Ristovski, while Turku Gucu downed Westgate 2-1, the goals coming from Latif and Diliberto.

The other victories left Altona Gate and Turku Gucu level on eight points, with Altona Gate holding leadership by virtue of goal difference.

An interesting sidelight to the big clash at Paisley Reserve in Altona North on Saturday at 3 pm is that Turku Gucu's goalkeeper Ernie Toth used to play for Vardar.

Can he keep out his former teammates?

Other well known players on show will include Vardar goalkeeper Lee and defender Momirovski who used to play for Preston-Makedonia, and Drinoczky who is ex-Melbourne Hungaria. Watch out too for wellknown Turkish player Yasar Behic of

By LAURIE SCHWAB of The Age



Turku Gucu.

Incidentally, Latif has been at the centre of an ownership wrangle between JUST and Turku Gucu.

Last year, when he switched to Turku Gucu, the new club agreed to pay him the balance of his contract for that season and that it would release him back to JUST for the 1988 season.

JUST president Joe Sterpin was complaining a few weeks ago that this had not been done.

Juventus aims high

MIKE Petersen and Mehmet Durakovic return after injury to play for Brunswick Juventus against Adelaide Juventus at Olympic Park on Sunday.

The match has been switched from the Olympic Village ground because Alexander has a home game there this week.

Durakovic resumed with the reserves last Sunday, scoring two goals in a 4-0 victory over Makedonia. Andrew Zinni, who broke a finger at training and has missed

two matches, is also due to resume — if not this week, then certainly next week, against Melbourne Croatia.

Durakovic, who has played in virtually every position, is likely to become the new right back, as Peter Lewis soon will move to Queensland.

Following the sacking of coach Len McKendry, and the appointment of Brian Brown as player-coach, we might see Rino Minichiello being given a run in the senior team.

He has played in Italy for 18 months but was told on his return that there was no place for him in the senior squad and that he should train with the youth team.

Juventus is concerned about its goalkeeping position, as Pat Marama has cost the club a few goals recently and it would not surprise to see Peter Laumets, being recruited from South Melbourne Hellas.

Brown has been appointed as coach until the end of the season. Meanwhile, the club is likely to contact John Margaritis, the man who led it to the 1984 NSL championship. Margaritis is in Greece on business.



● Ossie Latif... he'll test Altona Gate.



● Mendo Ristovski.



● Peter Laumets... goalkeeper coach.

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WILL YOU BE IN IT?





- *Footscray's Luciano Fabrizio takes on Robert Markovac.*



● Robert Napoli and Angie Goutzoulis.



● *Footscray's Warren Spink*



● Robert Markovac

PHOTOS

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ROUGH JUSTICE!

THE Gary McDowall case has made it perfectly clear to those of us who believe in justice that there is an urgent need for a complete revision of the system which deals with soccer's law-breakers.

The Soccerroo defender was tried three times, found guilty three times and punished three times for the same offence and on no occasion was he allowed to say one word in his defence.

This clearly goes against not only the letter of the law, but the moral rights of anyone living in a democratic society.

Even the most hardened and habitual criminals are given the right and the machinery to defend themselves against accusation.

The fact that McDowall and many others before and no doubt, after him will not be treated with the same courtesy is surely a black mark on soccer's judicial system.

At the moment, even on an every day level, players who stand accused of breaking the laws of the game, are judged guilty until proven innocent. And even if they do prove themselves innocent, it is often too late.

Those ordered off, for example automatically miss the following game. No consideration is given to the possibility that the referee may have made a mistake — perhaps with the identity of the player involved, which has happened on more than one occasion in the past.

Such an offhand manner of dealing with supposed transgressors smacks of kangaroo court procedure and the ironical thing is that soccer in Australia has more lawyers than you can shake a stick at.

By
BOB
BRIAN
of the
Melbourne
Herald



With so many qualified men, why is it that Australian soccer can allow such a blatant disregard for human rights?

And why is that with such a neanderthal system of justice, can the Australian Soccer Federation set itself above the game's ultimate authority, FIFA?

It certainly did this in the McDowall case when it followed up FIFA's three-game suspension with a much longer ban of its own.

One explanation is that the Australian Olympic Federation applied a little pressure in a letter to the ASF.

That wouldn't surprise me.

The Olympic Games authorities have been fighting their own problems with political interference, blood-doping, drugtaking and professionals competing as amateurs, and is probably very touchy about its image.

But I can't see what right it has to interfere in soccer.

After all, it has been more than happy to let FIFA run soccer at the Olympics — and very successfully too — for a long time now.

Be that as it may, the over-riding issue con-

fronting the game is still the holier-than-thou attitude adopted by the various disciplinary committees throughout the country.

No player should be punished automatically.

Australian Rules has its Monday night tribunal in which all miscreants are tried in a proper manner.

It is high time soccer adopted the same system.

There is no need to call a full court hearing every time a player has been sent off.

But those who wish to defend themselves should be allowed to do so before being sentenced.

Those who don't want to, will have obviously accepted their guilt and are therefore prepared to accept the punishment that goes with it.

Referees are by no means infallible, even they admit that. Therefore it follows that players are sometimes unjustly punished.

It would be much better for all concerned — and the game in general — if we adopted the old cliché that justice must not only be done but must also be seen to be done.



● Graham French another victim of rough justice?



SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS



● Shaun Parton



SOME OF THE BACKROOM BOYS

Youth coach John Webb & senior coach John Gardiner with Physio Roger Borg keeping a watchful eye on proceedings.

THE RECORD TO DATE

MARCONI 0-6
SYDNEY CROATIA 0-1
APIA LEICHHARDT 1-0
 Carter
BRISBANE LIONS 3-2
 Richardson, Clark, McLaren.
JUVENTUS 3-3
 McLaren, Carter, Markovski.
SOUTH MELBOURNE 4-1
 Lennon (2), Clark, Campelj
ST. GEORGE 4-1
 Lennon, Parton, Clark, McLaren
WOLLONGONG 0-1

PRESTON
MAKEDONIA 1-1
 Jackson o.g.
ADELAIDE CITY 0-0
MELBOURNE
CROATIA 2-0
 Clark, Campelj
FOOTSCRAY 1-1
 Parton

SCORERS: Clark 4, Lennon 3,
 McLaren 3, Campelj 2, Carter 2, Parton
 2, Markovski 1, Richardson 1, o.g. 1.



● Back row: Tom Markovski, (now Western Suburbs), Gary Hasler, John Waddell, Sean Keogh, Aki Kotzamichalis, Robert Markovac.
 Front row: Mar, Lennon, Don McLaren, John Campelj, mascot Mathew Buhagir, Les Carter, Gary Clark, Jeff Faulkner, John Markovski.

A mere six months ago, Sunshine George Cross was fighting for its National League existence, and even though it eventually survived, few would have given it much hope of improving on last year's performance.

And when the first match of this campaign resulted in a 6-0 drubbing by Marconi, we all expected the worst.

But today, Georgie stands third on the League Ladder, highest placed of all the Melbourne clubs, and visiting teams have learned to have a healthy respect for the local Red Devils.

It's an amazing transformation and it hasn't been brought about by plunging into the transfer market either, that isn't Georgie's style.

When brilliant young Paul Trimboli went to South Melbourne at the end of last season it seemed that Georgie must go from bad to worse, but it didn't work out that way.

The team has scored 19 goals in 12 outings, and they have been shared between eight players, which speaks volumes for teamwork.

So what is the secret of Georgie's transformation?

Ask coach John Gardiner and he just shrugs his shoulders and says there is no secret, it's just hard work paying off.

But didn't the players work just as hard last year?

Of course they did, he responds, but the young players are growing more mature all the time, and as success breeds success, so they are beginning to believe in themselves more and more.

The arrival of John Waddell from Scotland has introduced a calming influence in the back four, and full-backs Andrew Marth and John Campelj look the more assured for it.

When Wollongong came to Chaplin Reserve, Marth virtually starved Alan Brazil out of the game, no mean feat that.

Sunshine George Cross revival is good news for the Melbourne scene, long may it continue.

On Sunday there should be a bumper crowd at Anderson Road to see Marconi, one of the glamour teams of the competition, and they will all be hoping that Marconi goes home crying 'Mayday' 'Mayday'.



● Andrew Marth

FIXTURES REMAINING

May 1	MARCONI (H)
May 8	SYDNEY OLYMPIC (H)
May 15	SYDNEY CROATIA (H)
May 29	BRISBANE LIONS (H)
June 5	JUVENTUS (A)
June 12	SOUTH MELBOURNE
June 19	ST. GEORGE (A)
JUNE 26	WOLLONGONG (A)
July 3	PRESTON MAKEDONIA (A)
July 10/17	ADELAIDE CITY (H)
July 24	MELBOURNE CROATIA (A)
JULY 31	FOOTSCRAY (H)
August 7	SYDNEY OLYMPIC (A)
August 14	FINALS

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Round Eight Details

BULLEEN 0 HEIDELBERG 1 (Anastasiadis, pen. 67th).

At Veneto Club, Saturday, Referee M. Calapietra. Sent off Ryanes (Heid.). Cautions Boin, Sells (B), Bordignon, Lucchesi (H).

BULLEEN: Contini 8 — Ruccia 7, Krajacic 7, Curulli 7, Boin 7 — Curcio 6, Trogrlic 6, Angele 6, Bozikas 6 — Lujic 6, Sella 6 (D'Amico 72nd). Coach Jim Rooney.
HEIDELBERG: Banovic 7 — Kanesoulis 8, Patiniotis 6, Ousalkas 7, Bordignon 7 — Valentini 8, Theodosopoulos 6, Lucchesi 6, Raynes (sent off) — Anastasiadis 7, Morovic 6. Coach Terry Hennessy.
Ansett Best Player Award: Valentini (H), Contini (B) 2, Kanesoulis (H) 1.

CAULFIELD CITY 2 (Harris, pen. 6th, Cozzella 15th) GREEN GULLY (Quigley).

At Princes Park, Saturday, Referee J. Santa Isabel.
CAULFIELD CITY: Madjer 5 — Bitonis 7, Harris 7, Fattore 6, Filipou 6 — Theoharous 8, Alagizidis 6, Griffin 6, Hamakiotis 7 — Goutzioulis 6, Cozzella 6. Coach Rocco Ilie.
GREEN GULLY: Sant 8 — Napoli 6, Farquarson 6, Cutler 6, Grimaud 6 — Wilson 6, Douglas 8, Quigley 6 — O'Donnell 6, Canneli 5, Smart 6. Coach Willie Vassallo. Ansett Best Player Award: Sant (G.G.) 3, Theoharous (C) 2, Douglas (G.G.) 1.

MORWELL FALCONS 1 (Gotis 36th) MARIBYRNONG 0

At North Crinigan Reserve, Referee M. Gaut. Cautions Reynolds Gotis (MF).
MORWELL FALCONS: Reynolds 8 — Bennett 6, Clarke 7, Bruns 7, Gotis 6 — Jeff Doyle 6, Cassar 6, Drakeford 7, O'Callaghan 6 — Webster 6, Sokoluk 6. Coach Bobby McLachlan.
MARIBYRNONG: Dzielakowski 6 — Farrugia 6 (de Bono 71st), Stojcevi 6, Innes 7, Smolarek 6 — Watson (Czapnik 29th, 6), Baran 7, Chetcuti 6, Bonk 6 — Lakic 7, Warszawski 7. Coach Jim McIntyre.
Ansett Best Player Award: Reynolds 8 (M.F.) 3, Clarke (M.F.) 2, Warszawski (M) 1.

ST ALBANS 4 (Kelic 50th, 78th, Rastocic 8th, Popovski 89th) OAKLEIGH 0.

At Churchill Reserve, Saturday, Referee J. Rutter. Cautions Nicolaides, J. Gusic (Oak).
ST ALBANS: Grgic 7 — Dragovic 7, Colina 7, Gagula 7, Jurgic 7 — Macasevic 6 (Adbaltam 81st), Duzel 6, Culina 7, Rastocic 7 — Kelic 7, Popovski 7. Coach Tony Vrzina.
OAKLEIGH: Kardamitsis 6 — Nicolaides 6, Politis 6, Gusic 5 (Lafetas 66th), Hallford 6 — Livingstone 6, Vardaxis 6, Ross 7, Dick (Stamatidis 19th, 6) — Ward 7, Gourlias 6. Coach Takis Sviggos.
Ansett Best Player Award: Kelic (St.A.) 3, Popovski (St.A.) 2, Culina (St.A.) 1.

SPRINGVALE CITY 0 RINGWOOD CITY 2 (Nijholt 29th, Davie 65th)

At Ross Reserve Sunday, Referee R. Butler.
SPRINGVALE CITY: Boland 7 — Kral 6, Bryden, Bozic, White 7 — Findlay 6, Hennessy 5 (Settle 68th), Bell 5, Rau 5 (Kelly 78th) — Morrey 6, Black 6. Coach Gus MacLeod.
RINGWOOD CITY: Janssen 7 — Whitehouse 7, Nolan 6, May 6, Cumming 7 — Nelson 6, Corvan 7, Haupt 7, Davie 7 — Middlemast 7, Nijholt 7. Coach Hans Petersen.
Ansett Best Player Award: Nijholt (R) 3, Davie (R) 2, Middlemast (R) 1.

CROYDON CITY 3 (French 30th, Humble 43rd, van Egmond 65th) BOX HILL 2 (Burton 75th, Roodhouse 82nd).

At Town Park, Sunday, Referee A. McHugh.
CROYDON CITY: M. Runje 7 — Brown 6, Black 6, McIntosh 8, Langsbury 6 — van Egmond 6 (O'Shea 85th), R. Runje 7, Campbell 7 — G. Runje 6 (Harbison 80th), Humble 7, French 7. Coach Miron Bleiberg.
BOX HILL: McKinlay 6 — J. Mori 6, Bain 6 (Mazzagetti H.T.), Martinucci 7, Roodhouse 8 — Brimmer 6, Burton 7, McAleer 6, Thomas 6 — D. Mori 6, Arelis 6. Coach John Brown.
Ansett Best Player Award: Roodhouse (BH) 3, McIntosh (Croy) 2, Humble (Croy) 1.

THOMASTOWN 0 NORTHCOTE CITY 1 (Tsangos 26th)

At Partridge Reserve Sunday, Referee C. Bambridge. Cautions, Leonardos (N), Carfora (T).
THOMASTOWN: Raponi 6 — Arcoraci 7, Mihailidis 6, Pinalto 6, de Propertis (Raguso 20th, 7) — Dougherty 7, Carfora 6 (Pacca 68th), Lewis 7, De Martino 6 — Athersych 6, McGuinness 6. Coach Bill Murray.
NORTHCOTE CITY: Turudia 6 — Leonardos 6, Palmariotti 6, Kouremenos 6, J. Constantinou 6 — N. Constantinou 6, Woodall 7, Tsangos 7, Bekiaris 7 — Ramos 7, Gilder 8. Coach Roy McLaren.
Ansett Best Player Award: Gilder (N) 3, Woodall (N) 2, Dougherty (T) 1.

WESTERN SUBURBS 2 (Kopsaftis 68th, Metaxas 80th) FAWKNER 0.

At Ralph Reserve, Sunday, N. Zacharidis.
WESTERN SUBURBS: Hatzilazarou 7 — Markovski 6, Kagioglou, Esposito 6, Pender 7 — Daley 8, Kopsaftis 6 (Stefanidis 85th), Hamill 6, Vo (Roumpas 62nd) — Tuck 6, Metaxas 7. Coach Jimmy Condilis.
FAWKNER: Wilson 6 — Walsh 6, Henderson 6, Schipano 6, Angele 6 — Sabatino 6 (Orlando 74th), Cullen 7, Verechia 6 (Jankulovski 74th) — Brown 6, Hennessy 8, Stenson 7. Coach Mike Lynn.
Best Player Award: Daley (WS) 3, Hennessy (F) 2, Metaxas (WS) 1.

PACIFIC TIMBER State League Ladder

	FIRSTS	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
HEIDELBERG	8	7	0	1	16	4	14	
NORTHCOTE CITY	8	6	2	0	15	3	14	
CROYDON CITY	8	5	2	1	10	6	12	
ST ALBANS	8	5	2	1	16	10	12	
CAULFIELD CITY	8	3	3	2	10	8	9	
Green Gully	8	3	3	2	9	7	9	
Thomastown	8	4	1	3	7	9	9	
Maribyrnong	8	3	1	4	11	11	7	
Box Hill	8	2	2	4	11	13	6	
Mor/Falcons	8	2	2	4	4	7	6	
Fawkner	8	2	1	5	4	7	5	
Ringwood City	8	2	1	5	10	14	5	
Western Suburbs	8	2	1	5	9	14	5	
Bulleen	8	1	3	4	3	8	5	
Oakleigh	8	1	3	4	5	11	5	
Springvale City	8	1	3	4	3	11	5	

	RESERVES	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
CAULFIELD CITY 0 GREEN GULLY 3								
BULLEEN 5 HEIDELBERG 1								
MORWELL FALCONS 5 MARIBYRNONG 0								
ST ALBANS 2 OAKLEIGH 0								
WESTERN SUBURBS 1 FAWKNER 0								
WESTERN SUBURBS 1 FAWKNER 0								
CROYDON CITY 1 BOX HILL 0								
THOMASTOWN 0 NORTHCOTE CITY 5								
SPRINGVALE CITY 0 RINGWOOD CITY 1								

State League Reserves Ladder

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Northcote City	8	7	1	0	31	9	15
Green Gully	8	5	2	1	19	9	12
Mor/Falcons	8	5	2	1	15	6	11
Box Hill	8	5	1	2	24	9	11
Fawkner	8	5	1	2	14	8	11
CAULFIELD CITY	8	4	1	3	18	11	9
Ringwood City	8	4	1	3	18	13	9
St Albans	8	3	2	3	12	15	8
Maribyrnong	8	3	1	4	13	19	7
Thomastown	8	2	3	3	13	21	7
Western Suburbs	8	3	1	4	7	21	7
Croydon City	8	3	0	5	9	8	6
Heidelberg	8	3	2	3	18	19	8
Bulleen	8	2	2	4	15	17	6
Springvale City	8	0	0	8	3	24	0
Oakleigh	8	0	0	8	5	28	0

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9. M. Runje (Croy)	Theoharous (Caul)
Contini (Bul)	5. Banovic (Heid)
McIntosh (Croy)	Cullen (Fawk)
8. Higgins (Thom)	Daley (Ests)
Hatzilazarou (W.S.)	Davidson (B.H.)
Quigley (G.G.)	Raynes (Heid)
Warszawski (Mar)	Patiniotis (Heid)
Woodall (North)	Sant (G.G.)
7. Culina (St.A)	4. Bruns (M.F.)
Gilder (North)	Burton (B.H.)
Nijholt (Ring)	Cumming (Ring)
Ramos (North)	Curulli (Bul)
Roodhouse (B.H.)	Dougherty (T'town)
6. Anastasiadis (Heid)	Kostrazewa (Mar)
Douglas (G.G.)	Turudia (North)
McKinlay (B.H.)	Webster (M.F.)
Lucchesi (Heid)	



GREEN GULLY 1988

Back Row: Robert Farquarson, Steven Douglas, Colin Quigley, Charlie Sant, Joe O'Donnell, Gary Cutler, Stuart Cannel.
Front Row: Ken Smart, Robert Napoli, Mark Wilson, Robert Manzella, Mike Doherty, Robert Grimaud.

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NORTHCOTE v CROYDON IS TOPS

French decision baffling

State League Preview
By
BRIAN JAMES

YOU Must have been as staggered as I was when you saw Croydon's Graham French's name among the scorers in the State League results on Sunday night.

There must be two French's, I thought. I know Graham was sent off on April 17 in controversial circumstances, here he is bobbing up again and scoring too.

So I had to ring the VSF for clarification, and listen carefully, because this one is a lulu.

It appears that a sending off before the game, or at the half-time interval, or after the game is the subject of a special report, and until the Tribunal meets to consider it, the player can play.

Hands up all those people who knew this... I thought so.

Even by our standards, this is the biggest load of bullsh*t ever.

For years we have advocated passionately that a player should be allowed to continue playing until his case comes up, as is the case with the Football League and all other well-run bodies.

Now the VSF endorses this view, by allowing French to play whilst continuing to make players

serve an automatic one week's suspension if sent off during the course of play.

How can there be two different sets of rules for the same players in the same League... the mind boggles.

(Not just my mind, either... I rang the Chairman, Mr Jack Reilly to ask why French was allowed to play and off the cuff he didn't know either.)

The Tribunal's decision on this one is going to rival Solomon's, unless it decides to demote referee Sam Zoomas to the lowest reaches of the Amateur League.

I just hope this story doesn't get into FIFA News because we would be the laughing stock of the soccer world.

You can imagine the jokes...when is a send-off not a send-off, answer, why at half-time of course, but you mustn't play in the second half.

Never mind the red-cards, it's going to be red races all right unless someone steps in with a sensible solution.

What the hell a referee could be thinking of to pursue a player into a dressing room to carry on an argument at half-time is beyond me, but I'd better keep quiet or I'll be getting another writ.

It appears that you can criticise players with impunity, but referees are beginning to think themselves sacrosanct.

Some referees, that is, not the few good ones.

The Victorian President of the referees, Chris Bambridge says he's concerned about the strained relationship between the media and referees and hopes to organise a seminar soon between senior referees and the press.

I hope it comes off soon, and more power to his elbow, because this crisis of confidence in refereeing standards is becoming more serious by the week.

BUT enough about refereeing.

One of the most fascinating aspects of this season's State League is the revival of Northcote City.

Oh yes, I know, we've talked before about how well the first team is doing, joint leader of the league and still unbeaten after

seven games, but have you seen the reserves' record?

Top of the league ladder, also unbeaten and with 26 goals to its credit already.

Last year, as we all know too well, Northcote just survived relegation by the skin of its teeth, and its reserve team finished an undistinguished eleventh, having won just six games.

This year, its reserves have already won six games, equalling last season's record after only seven games.

What's the secret? I'm sure if coach Roy McLaren knew he'd bottle it and sell it at \$20 a bottle.

Maybe it's confidence but then that confidence hasn't rubbed off where Heidelberg is concerned, has it.

It's first team is up there, vying with Northcote for top spot, but its reserve team is down in eleventh spot and not looking too convincing either.

Maybe it's all in the mind, but I'll tell you something, those wisecracks who predicted Northcote's winning bubble would burst are beginning to look a bit sick.

There are some interesting tussles coming up this weekend.

The top encounter must be the clash between Northcote City and Croydon City at John Cain Reserve.

Providing the VSF provides a sensible referee, this should be a game and a half.

Taking into consideration the fact that Tony Redmond will be missing out of the Croydon back four and Graham French might be suspended, the odds would seem to favour Northcote, especially on its own heap.

But Redmond might not be missed all that much. Croydon coach Miron Bleiberg gave me a glowing account of the game played by the third Runje, Robert, in the

sweeper position at Box Hill.

Bleiberg isn't given to superlatives... well not too often anyway, and he says that Robert Runje will play for Australia in two years.

He's no Charlie Yankos he says, he's the thoughtful type and always uses the ball well.

Nevertheless, I'll have to plump for Northcote to win and keep up the pressure on Heidelberg.

Heidelberg takes on Caulfield City at the Olympic Village and this could be a very close encounter.

Heidelberg had Willie Raynes sent off last week, and since this was a real send-off, with a real red card, it means he will miss this game.

Heidelberg has enough manpower to win this game, but it won't be easy, because Caulfield after a stuttering start is now firing and starting to stick the ball about as it did last year.

Springvale City visits Oakleigh and Vale's coach Gus MacLeod will be hoping that all the paperwork will be completed for his two new Scottish strikers, Steve Kennan from Stenhousemuir and Mick Livingstone from Junior club Cumnock.

They are both strikers and judging by Vale's goalscoring record they have arrived in the nick of time.

Saturday's only other match is the local derby between St Albans and Western Suburbs which could be very hard for Wests. Saints had a stunning win over big-spending Oakleigh last week and Tony Vrzina's men are in rampant goalscoring form.

Green Gully disappointed coach Willie Vassallo last week at Caulfield, but with the return of Steve McClelland the Greens have the chance to redeem themselves on Sunday when they receive Fawkner.

Fawkner has scored only four goals in eight outings, a poor return when consider they have Doug Brown and Kees Storm up front.

This weekend's games likely winners in capitals.

SATURDAY: Oakleigh v Springvale City (draw), Caloola Reserve. ST. ALBANS v Western Suburbs, Churchill Reserve.

SUNDAY: Northcote City v Croydon City, John Cain Reserve. Box Hill v MORWELL FALCONS, Wembley Park.

MARYBYRNONG v Bulleen, Raleigh Reserve. Heidelberg v Caulfield City (draw), Olympic Village. GREEN GULLY v Fawkner, Gully Reserve. Ringwood City v THOMASTOWN, Jubilee Park.

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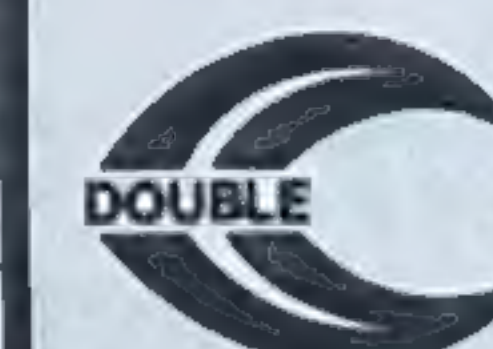


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● A large crowd saw the Golden Greeks fight back from a 3-0 deficit against the strong PAO team to finally win 5-4 in a highly entertaining final.

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VICTORIAN LEAGUE

Division 4

BORONIA v Holland Park 0

Referee Don Rosie

BORONIA: S. Robins, I. Williamson, G. Hobson, Dino Milosevic (caution), C. Langdon, W. Groenewald, D. Fisher, G. Groenewald, D. Tattersall, C. Radcliffe, P. Strahan. Coach: Ian Williamson.

HOLLAND PARK: T. Ergumer, I. Ozsoy, A. Dincer, I. Omekogullari, H. Ozcagil, A. Czannik, F. Colakoglu, A. Ozeagil, L. Elgueta, R. Akdeniz, A. Marshall. Coach: Andy Czannik.

A crowd of over 250 went away disappointed at this scoreless draw between two of the sides in the top four of the league.

Ambitious Holland Park had recruited heavily since meeting Boronia last August and only four of the names in that match appeared on the team sheet in this contest.

Two of Holland Park's new signings are big Alex Marshall from State League side Maryborough and "Slippery Eel" L. Elgueta from relegated Prahran.

Elgueta scored a hat-trick for Prahran when

Boronia over-ran his side in a 5-3 win last September. In the event Marshall and Elgueta were well contained by Boronia's defenders.

Hard tackling, tight marking and fast movement mainly in the mid-field thwarted many attacks and those that came anywhere near the keepers were well covered.

Best 3 for Boronia: Dino Milosevic, Gary Hobson and Ian Williamson.

Best 3 for Holland Park: F. Colakoglu, A. Czannik and L. Elgueta.

The reserves match was won by Boronia 1 goal to nil but it was a rough affair with 3 players on each side having to be chastised by the referee. Yes, it was the Brits and the Turks at it again on the eve of Anzac Day!

It looked like being a repetition of the 0-0 seniors game until 10 minutes from the end when play-coach Hamish Young and David Fairburn combined well for the latter to sidefoot past keeper and player-coach F. Taplin, from close inside the goal area.

Like the seniors

Boronia Reserves have also had the best of these home meetings scoring 4 points out of a possible 6.

Best 3 for Boronia: Paul Desmond, Brett Clarke and Hamish Young.

Best 3 for Holland Park: U. Cinon, A. Torgay and K. Sen.

VICTORIAN LEAGUE

Division One

Werribee v Nunawading City at

Calvin Park, Werribee

WERRIBEE: E. Meletis, P. DiBernardino, G. Rateni, R. Barba, T. Cosentino, F. Petricca, G. Lo Grasso, G. De Amicis (G. Calarco-73rd), S. Magnano, S. Hackett.

NUNAWADING: C. G. Sullivan, C. Calafiore, S. Nellies, A. Christidis (T. Neal80th), C. Barker, K. Taylor, D. Azzopardi, I. Greener, S. Randazzo, M. Boggero, C. Jerez.

AFTER Werribee had hit the post in the opening minutes, the speedy Nunawading forwards gave the home defence plenty to think about. After 15 minutes, a right wing corner was sent to the far post where Randazzo, by no means the tallest player afield, rose head and shoulders above the defence to head

fiercely home. With almost half an hour gone a long ball from defence saw Azzopardi outpace his defender and drive an unstoppable shot past Meletis.

After the interval Werribee attacked strongly but their finishing was weak. In the 60th minute, Taylor broke through the middle and his goalbound shot was finger tipped for a corner by Meletis.

From the resultant corner kick, Roggero's header was also tipped round the post by Meletis.

In desperation, Werribee mounted attack after attack and looked to have got back into the game when Nellies was adjudged to have handled. However, Magnano shot wide from the resultant spot kick, and Nunawading played out time for their first win of the season.

VICTORIAN LEAGUE

Division Two

Doncaster Rovers Soccer Club Inc.

HOME TEAM: R. Reber, N. Sharrocks, R. Hands, P. Scarlett, D. Aitken, A. Thompson, H. Mercer, R. Toal, D. Beattie, A. Politidis, C. Cooper, D. Hatzapoulos, S. Burke, K. Maloy.

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under pressure, and 17 minutes into the half Tolmie played a ball into the Altona box which Spicer managed to pick up and slip the ball past Reber for Rovers second goal. Mercer and Toal tried to make up the two goal deficit with two well struck shots but were foiled by the Rovers keeper Graham.

Towards the end of game Fernandes and Nicolidis combined to set up a certain Rovers goal, with three Rovers players lined up not one of them could finish off the cross from Nicolidis.

South Dandenong in the lead soon after the break. Seven minutes later the home side were on level terms. A beautiful glancing header by Gonullu followed by Yildirim's goal five minutes from time put the visitors in the box seat.

South Springvale's third goal came from a free kick that was deflected by a defender. The visitors defended sensibly in the closing stages and hung on to win the game that was a credit to players from both teams.

Number five came after a shocking miss kick by an Eltham defender left Paul Storey with a clear path to goal and he made no mistake.

To their credit Eltham gave all they had got after half time and were rewarded when they got a penalty to pull one back. M. Cirka scoring. This stirred Waverley up a bit and they made it four when Paul Storey was pulled down in the area and Terry Grimwade made no mistake from the spot.

Against the run of play Clayton's keeper Szabo fumbled a save and the ball was scrambled into the net giving Ballarat the lead.

Clayton continued to attack with G. Di Iorio cutting the Ballarat defence to pieces. It took Central defender Phil Smith in the 78th minute to equalise and then 4 minutes before the end Smith again scored in a goal mouth scramble to give Clayton the winner.

Best players: Clayton G. Di Iorio, C. Riccioni, P. Smith. BALLARAT: S. Armstrong, W. McNeight, S. Burns.

PROVISIONAL LEAGUE

Division Three

Warner Reserve-Springvale, 23rd

April 1988.

South Springvale 3 v. South

Dandenong 4.

HOME TEAM: (O. Emmanouilidis-10; Ismailoglu-65, Kikidis-86).

J. Chrysilos, G. Argyropoulos, A. Kikidis, H. Tsekouras, G. Plakas, S. Petrou, T. Emmanouilidis, O. Emmanouilidis, J. Simos, Z. Blazevski, M. Ismailoglu.

VISITORS: (J. Emazovski-3; Jusipen-58, Gonullu-66, Yildirim-85) S. Fus, R. Lumani, H. Fasal, H. Schaffer, M. Jusic, J. Elmazovski, Y. Gonullu, L. Ozyurek, S. Yildirim, H. Sepetci.

THE young Springvale team made their visitors fight every inch of the way in this seven goal thriller.

In the final analysis experience probably tipped the scales in favour of the Dandenong side.

Following a 1-1 scoreline at half-time a hairline penalty decision put

Doncaster nearly paid for their poor finishing, when in the 38th minute Twine cleared off the line from an Altona corner.

The second half saw Doncaster putting Altona

into the box seat.

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Doncaster

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE

ROUND THIRTEEN SUNDAY MAY 1



Steve Blair

SOUTH MELBOURNE
v
PRESTON
MAKEDONIA

MIDDLE PARK

K.O. 2.30 PM



Con Opatinis



Joe Palatsides

BRUNSWICK
JUVENTUS
v
ADELAIDE CITY

OLYMPIC PARK

K.O. 2.30 PM



Steve Maxwell



Shaun Parton

SUNSHINE
GEORGE CROSS
v
MARCONI

CHAPLIN RESERVE

K.O. 2.30 PM



Craig Mason

ST. GEORGE v WOLLONGONG
ST. GEORGE STADIUM K.O. 2.30 PM

BRISBANE LIONS v MELBOURNE CROATIA
RICHLANDS K.O. 2.30 PM

APIA LEICHHARDT v FOOTSCRAY
WENTWORTH PARK K.O. 2.30 PM

SYDNEY CROATIA v SYDNEY OLYMPIC
CROATIAN SPORTS CENTRE K.O. 2.30 PM